

**§ 3430.1010 Review criteria.**

Panel reviewers conducting merit reviews on proposals submitted by the Centers will be instructed to ensure that proposals adequately address the plan developed in accordance with § 3430.1007 for consideration of the relevance and merit of proposals.

**§ 3430.1011 Duration of awards.**

The term of a Federal assistance award made under the Sun Grant Program shall not exceed 5 years. No-cost extensions of time beyond the maximum award terms will not be considered or granted.

**PART 3431—VETERINARY MEDICINE LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM****Subpart A—Designation of Veterinarian Shortage Situations**

Sec.

- 3431.1 Applicability of regulations.
- 3431.2 Purpose.
- 3431.3 Definitions and acronyms.
- 3431.4 Solicitation of stakeholder input.
- 3431.5 Solicitation of veterinarian shortage situations.
- 3431.6 Review of nominations.
- 3431.7 Notification and use of designated veterinarian shortage situations.

**Subpart B—Administration of the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program**

- 3431.8 Purpose and scope.
- 3431.9 Eligibility to apply.
- 3431.10 Eligibility to participate.
- 3431.11 Application.
- 3431.12 Selection of applicants.
- 3431.13 Terms of loan repayment and length of service requirements.
- 3431.14 Priority.
- 3431.15 Qualifying loans.
- 3431.16 Certifications and verifications.
- 3431.17 VMLRP service agreement offer.
- 3431.18 Service agreement.
- 3431.19 Payment and tax liability.
- 3431.20 Administration.
- 3431.21 Breach.
- 3431.22 Waiver.
- 3431.23 Service to Federal government in emergency situations.
- 3431.24 Reporting requirements, monitoring, and close-out.

AUTHORITY: 7 U.S.C. 3151a; Pub. L. 106-107 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note).

SOURCE: 75 FR 20243, Apr. 19, 2010, unless otherwise noted.

**Subpart A—Designation of Veterinarian Shortage Situations****§ 3431.1 Applicability of regulations.**

This part establishes the process and procedures for designating veterinarian shortage situations as well as the administrative provisions for the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP) authorized by the National Veterinary Medical Service Act (NVMSA), 7 U.S.C. 3151a.

**§ 3431.2 Purpose.**

The Secretary will follow the processes and procedures established in subpart A of this part to designate veterinarian shortage situations for the VMLRP. Applications for the VMLRP will be accepted from eligible veterinarians who agree to serve in one of the designated shortage situations in exchange for the repayment of an amount of the principal and interest of the veterinarian's qualifying educational loans. The administrative provisions for the VMLRP, including the application process, are established in subpart B of this part.

**§ 3431.3 Definitions and acronyms.**

(a) *General definitions.* As used in this part:

*Act* means the National Veterinary Medical Service Act, as amended.

*Agency* or NIFA means the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

*Department* means the United States Department of Agriculture.

*Food animal* means the following species: Bovine, porcine, ovine/camelid, cervid, poultry, caprine, and any other species as determined by the Secretary.

*Food supply veterinary medicine* means all aspects of veterinary medicine's involvement in food supply systems, from traditional agricultural production to consumption.

*Insular area* means the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Palau, and the Virgin Islands of the United States.

*NVMSA* means the National Veterinary Medicine Service Act.